

# Reconciling Community of Faith

October 2018 submitted by Shirley Cheal

**Gatherings are held:** Every first Monday of the month in the library at 4pm. Open to all

## **Purpose of the Commission/Committee/Group:**

- To become more welcoming to LGBTQ folks and their families
- Support allies and encourage new allies
- Educate and inform group on current issues
- Create a strong and inclusive Community of Faith.

## **How does the purpose help fulfill the mission of FUMC?**

By putting an emphasis, and putting into action our Oneness in Christ Statement.

## **What are your activities/ programs/ ministries/ accomplishments for the last year?**

- Increasing the awareness that we are a Reconciling Congregation at FUMC
- Education through short movie clips, use of YouTube and Ted Talks
- Participation in The Sonoma County Pride Parade. (See pictures below.)
- Speaking out and supporting the issues of our group both with FUMC folks, friends, family and the community. Members regularly share their accomplishments in this area.
- Prominent position of Oneness in Christ Statement and words 'FUMC a Reconciling Congregation' on Sunday Bulletin.
- Financial support to Reconciling Ministries Network.

## **What are your goals and plans for the next year?**

- Support community outreach to LGBTQ community through attendance and missional giving.
- Greater visibility through FUMC website home page.
- Participate in Sonoma County Pride Parade.
- Encourage the use of the FUMC Oneness in Christ Statement and inclusive language.
- Continue to support Reconciling Ministries goals for full acceptance of all people regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation. Support the removal of all exclusionary language in the Book of Discipline.

